UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/2630
(URT/78/022)
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APPROVAL OF LARGE-SCALE UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Project title and number:	Strengthening of the National Bird Control Unit (URT/78/022)
Executing Agency:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government co-operating agency:	Crop Development Division, Ministry of Agriculture
Date of approval:	October 1978
Starting date for project operations:	January 1979
Duration:	Three years
Estimated value of the Government input expressed in US dollars:	$130 723 (In kind)
Estimated UNDP contribution:	$621 300
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Tanzania is the principal area occupied by the Quelea bird population which moves through a range from central Somalia in the north to northern Zambia in the south and from the Indian Ocean in the east to Lake Nyanza in the west. The adult population remains in Tanzania from December through July during most of which time breeding takes place. Damage to crops, particularly millets and sorghum in the central rainlands, is often severe.

2. For twenty years Tanzania has had a Bird Control Unit continually engaged in the protection of crops from losses caused by birds. The Unit has been unable to keep up with the development of agriculture in the country, and in recent years, has been relying to an increasing extent on services offered by the Desert Locust Control Organisation for East Africa (DLCO-EA), which may not always be available. Currently the Unit suffers from inadequate transportation which considerably hampers control operations, and badly needs to improve its services. The present UNDP/FAO assistance project is designed to assist in solving these problems.

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II. The project

3. The long-range objective of the project is to improve the capability of the Bird Control Unit to protect crops, particularly cereals, from losses caused by grain-eating birds, thus increasing the yield of cereal crops.

4. The immediate objectives are to: (a) provide the Bird Control Unit with the material support necessary for its effective operation; (b) improve present methods of control by training staff of the National Bird Unit in indirect control techniqu (c) investigate the application, and efficacy, of new direct control techniques recommended by the regional project RAF/77/042; 1/ and (d) participate in the monitoring of the granivorous bird situation by providing information on crop damag levels and damage control activities to the regional co-ordination centre establisn by the project RAF/77/042 at Dodoma.

5. The UNDP assistance will consist of individual fellowship awards, group traini in-service training and operational equipment items (about 49 per cent of the total UNDP inputs), as well as the services of one expert and some consultants. The Government will provide the necessary counterpart and administrative support person training, equipment and miscellaneous operating costs.

6. The expenditure components of the UNDP contribution are as follows:

	m/m	$
Experts/consultants, including administrative support personnel	39	213 800
Subcontracts		94 800
Training		113 700
Equipment		189 500
Miscellaneous		9 500
		621 300

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